

Chief Joseph Country: Land of the Nez Perce, by Bill Gulick. (Caldwell, ID: Caxton Printers, Ltd., 1981. pp. 316, illustrations, photographs, bibliography, index, \$29.95 cloth.)

The author, basically a western fiction writer, has produced what he terms a "dramatic narrative" of the tribulations of one of America's greatest Indian leaders. The work gives more credence to the views of the Indians than to the words merely written by white men, unlike most of the current accounts. This is the epic story which spans one hundred years of the poignant, bitter, and tragic life of the Nez Perce and the historic flight of Chief Joseph. Caxton Printers, one of the most reputable in the nation, has once again gone overboard in producing a most handsome volume—one which belongs on the coffee table of all true Western Americana buffs.

The Embattled Confederacy: The Image of War, 1861-1865, Vol. III, ed. William C. Davis. (New York: Doubleday & Company, Inc., 1982. Published for the National Historical Society. pp. 464, photographs, index, \$39.95 cloth.)

This is the third volume of *The Image of War: 1861-1865*, the proposed six-volume series. From the battle of Antietam through the defeat of the South at Gettysburg, the nations foremost Civil War historians narrate the rise and fall of the South and the Confederate States of America. Particularly memorable in this volume are the chapters that explore two diverse regions—the peaceful town of New Bern, North Carolina and Washington, D.C., filled with barracks yards away from the nation's capitol. The hundreds of photographs portray the hardships of Southern life, the Confederate generals and the common soldiers, and the issue of slavery and the emancipation of the Negroes. Readers certainly can look forward to the three remaining volumes in this unrivaled Civil War series.

Ordeal by Fire: The Civil War and Reconstruction, by James M. McPherson. (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1982. pp. 752, illustrations, notes, glossary, bibliography, \$29.95 cloth.)

Until now, the sole in-depth treatment of this crucial era in one volume has been Randall's and Donald's, *The Civil War and Reconstruction*. McPherson's work will certainly stand side-by-side with the earlier work, as the most up-to-date survey of the Civil War. This work takes into account all the material published since the 1969

revision of the Randall and Donald volume. The longest section of the book deals with the war itself—its social, intellectual, and racial aspects. The section on Reconstruction provides some new insights into the South's failure to "modernize" and the sad consequences. This is a balanced, authoritative account and one surely to be recognized for years to come as worthy of scholars' attention.

Montana's Righteous Hangmen: The Vigilantes in Action, by Lew L. Callaway. (Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1982. pp. 233, illustrations, appendixes, index, \$12.95 cloth.)

Based on the memoirs of Lew L. Callaway, secretary of the Montana Territory, county attorney, mayor of Virginia City, and chief justice of the Montana Supreme Court, this is the story of life in the Montana Territory in the last half of the nineteenth century—of gold fever, Indian warfare, cattlemen, and vigilantes. One might think an attorney would be on the side of the law when telling about the vigilantes, but suprisingly, he gives a more balanced and judicious view. One can certainly see that judging their actions by current standards is not a fair assessment. This work, based on primary source material, updates and verifies the classic work on vigilantes by Thomas J. Dimsdale, *The Vigilantes of Montana*, published in 1865. The book certainly makes a unique contribution to our understanding of the "wild West."

Indiana Through Tradition and Change: A History of the Hoosier State and Its People, 1920-1945, by James H. Madison. (Indianapolis: Indiana Historical Society, 1982. pp. 453, illustrations, bibliographical essay, index, \$6.00 paper, \$12.00 cloth.)

This is volume five of a history of Indiana, three volumes of which (Volumes I, III, IV) have been previously published, and follows a topical organization with initial chapters devoted to the politics of the period and later chapters to social, economic, and cultural matters. The author utilizes local and community history to illustrate major themes and yet ties it all into the broader national themes of the era. The Indiana Historical Society can certainly be proud of this publication as it adds greatly to our knowledge of the people and their Hoosier state as they move through tradition and change in the years 1920 through 1945. Scholars should look forward to the completion of the second and sixth volumes of this state history and other states would do well to emulate such a project.

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